California Postsecondary Education Commission Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program **Project Description Project Title SEASAND Teacher Retention Initiative** Grant Amount: \$334,000 Grant Period: February 1, 2007 to January 30, 2011 Grade Level: Subject Matter: SCience Institute of Higher University of California, San Diego Education Local Education Agency Additional Partners: Need for SEASAND is requesting funds in the amount of \$300,000 over three years and \$34,000 in the fourth year to support its Teacher Retention Initiative (TRI). The monies will be used to create a Project/ Population To strong science teacher community intent on reducing teacher attrition by supporting both new Be Served: teachers in their emerging understanding of science teaching, and supporting veteran teachers by providing career advancement pathways in the community. The science teacher community will be created and sustained through an interdependent set of program activities as outlined below. **Project Goals:** Project goals are fivefold: 1) to increase teacher retention at the chosen sites; 2) to improve the teaching through increased understanding of content, pedagogy, science literacy, and English Learners; 3) to provide pathways for career advancement; 4) to provide multiple avenues of support for all teachers; and most importantly, 5) to increase student achievement by retaining teachers, improving their teaching, and supporting their work. Summary of Summary of activities: 1) A two-week summer institute split into two 5-day sessions, one in early July, and one in late Activities: August. This summer institute will provide the foundation for the science teacher community 2) Five follow-up days that build on the work begun in the summer institute 3) Mentoring opportunities for all teachers in order to deepen and support their work 4) Professional advancement meetings to assist new teachers in reaching a "highly qualified" status and to aid veteran teachers in becoming National Board certified 5) A one-day science and literacy conference focused on academic language and process skills 6) A two-day English Learners conference dedicated to strategies designed to better serve the EL population 7) Science department meetings that support and enhance the work done in the institute and follow-up days. Outcomes Teacher participation in both professional development activities and professional Expected: learning communities will provide professional support, encouragement and community that enables effective teaching and generates long term commitments to the students and schools where they practice. Teachers Students 120 Served Served **Project Website:** Email: Email: dapage@pointloma.edu Dawne Page Phone: Phone: **LEA Contact IHE Contact** 619.849.2204